

Score Card for Draft Horses



THE DRAFT TYPE

N. C. State College of Agriculture and Engineering
N. C. State Department of Agriculture
N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station, and
U. S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperating

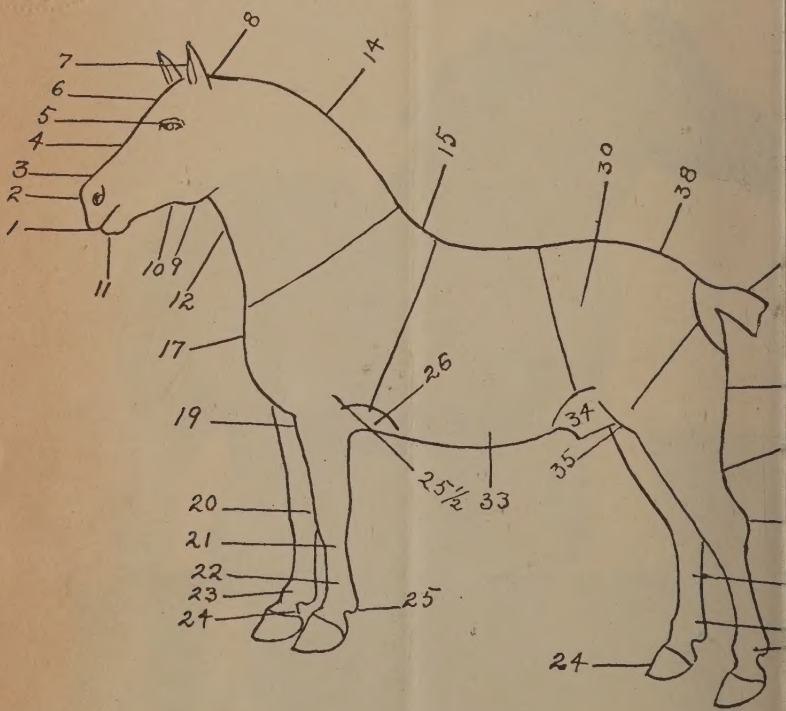
Agricultural Extension Service

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SCORE CARD FOR DRAFT HORSES

By EARL HOSTETLER, Animal Industry Division



	Perfect Score	Student's Score	Judge's Score
GENERAL APPEARANCE—19 Points.			
Height: estimated hands, actual			
Weight: over 1,600 lbs.; estimated lbs.; score accord- ing to age	6		
Form: broad, massive, evenly proportioned, symmetrical, blocky	4		
Quality: refined, bone clean, large, strong; tendons clean, de- fined, prominent; skin and hair fine; "feather," if present, silky	6		
Temperament: energetic; disposition, good	3		
HEAD AND NECK—8 Points.			
Head: proportionate size, clean cut, well carried; profile straight	1		
Forehead: broad, full	1		
Eyes: bright, clear, full, same color	1		
Ears: medium size, well carried, alert	1		
Muzzle: neat; nostrils large, flexible; lips thin, even, firm	1		
Lower jaw: angles wide, space clean	1		
Neck: muscled, arched; throat-latch, fine; windpipe large	2		
FOREQUARTERS—22 Points.			
Shoulder: moderately sloping, smooth, snug, extending well back	3		
Arm: short, strong-muscled, thrown back, well set	1		
Forearm: long, wide, clean, heavily muscled	2		
Knees: straight, wide, deep, strong, clean	2		
Canons: short, wide, clean; tendons, clean, defined, prominent	2		
Fetlocks: wide, straight, strong, clean	1		
Pasterns: moderately sloping, strong, clean	3		
Feet: large, even size, sound; horn dense, waxy; soles con- cave; bars strong, full; frogs large, elastic; heels wide, one- half length of toe, vertical to ground	8		
BODY—9 Points.			
Chest: deep, wide; breast, low; girth, large	2		
Ribs: deep, well sprung, closely ribbed to hip	2		
Back: broad, strong, muscular	2		
Loins: short, wide, thick muscled	2		
Underline: low, flanks full	1		
HINDQUARTERS—32 Points.			
Hips: broad, smooth, level, well muscled	2		
Croup: wide, heavily muscled, not markedly drooping	2		
Thighs: deep, broad, strong, muscular	3		
Quarters: plump with muscle deep	2		
Stiffes: large, strong, muscular, clean	2		
Gaskins (lower thighs): long, wide, clean, heavily muscled	2		
Hocks: large, strong, wide, deep, clean, well set	8		
Canons: short, wide, clean; tendons clean, defined, prominent	2		
Fetlocks: wide, straight, strong, clean	1		
Pasterns: moderately sloping, strong, clean	2		
Feet: large, even size, sound; horn dense, waxy; soles con- cave; bars strong, full; frogs, large, elastic; heels, wide, one-half length of toe, vertical to ground	6		
ACTION—10 Points.			
Walk: fast, elastic, regular, straight	6		
Trot: free, springy, balanced, straight	4		
Total	100		

STUDENT'S NAME

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAFT HORSE

General Appearance:

The form of a draft horse is low set, broad, massive, deep, compact, symmetrical, and stylish. His back is short and his under-line is long.

Draft horses must weigh at least 1,600 pounds, and estimating prices for horses on weight, every 100 pounds over 1,500 pounds adds \$25 to the horse's value.

Some men like a horse with a little more length of leg than others, because of the stride he can take.

Most men not only want horses of good size and weight, but also horses that show action and style.

Weight:

This is very essential, for the more weight the more adhesion he has to the ground.

Weight has two possible values:

1. More adhesion to the ground.
2. As a rule, heavier horses are stronger.

Strength:

Strength is a matter of muscling, and a draft horse should be well muscled all over, especially in the hindquarters, and fat must not be mistaken for muscle.

Action:

Straight action conserves energy and means sure-footedness. Snap, length of stride, and trueness are desired in a horse's action.

Endurance and Durability:

A horse must have the ability to do a day's work without being fagged out. In this (endurance) wind, muscling, and feeding capacity must be emphasized.

Disposition:

To be useful, a drafter must be prompt to go into the collar, willing and active, and should respond readily to the commands of the driver.